

WVU vs. Iowa State Women's Basketball Quotes - 2/10/2016

West Virginia Coach Mike Carey

On today's game

I thought that Arielle (Roberson), Lanay (Montgomery) and Bria (Holmes) played extremely hard. We just couldn't get anything going for anybody else. We were shooting air balls, shooting short and we were not aggressive inside. I give them three credit because they carried us through this victory. They did a great job.

On the team's shooting percentage today

We had some wide open shots, and we just didn't hit them. I don't know why. It seemed like we were a step slow. It seemed like some of our players were in slow motion today, and I don't know why. If I knew why, I wouldn't be here.

On Lanay Montgomery

Fifteen points and 15 rebounds. Arielle (Roberson) had 17 points, and she hit a big three when we were struggling and fell behind. You have to give them two credit along with Bria (Holmes). Bria (Holmes) played within herself. She hit her foul shots, and she played hard. I was proud of her. They were playing box and one on her. She didn't force much.

On some missed opportunities

We started kicking it inside when we started driving, at least Bria (Holmes) did. She was the only one I could get to drive the ball in there. It's frustrating.

On Bria Holmes making the team perform better

I like it when we're all scoring because we're hard to guard then. We're easy to guard when only a couple are scoring. That's what we went through last year. It's harder to guard when we get a lot of people scoring, but tonight it wasn't hard to guard us. We just weren't clicking.

On tonight's attendance

I want to thank the people that came out tonight. This is what frustrates me too. This is from a sports writer at Iowa State. He writes this: 'three things about West Virginia: for as good as the Mountaineers have been this season, they are only attract 2,588 fans per home game. That's the second lowest mark in the Big 12.'

It's kind of embarrassing when reporters from other papers and other states are writing about it. These girls deserve a lot more. If I don't fight for them, then nobody will. It's embarrassing when other states are saying the same thing. We have some loyal fans, but it's a shame that the students and other people aren't coming to these games. We're not a bad team. We are 19-6. It's not like we're a bad team. It would be different if we weren't good. I'll fight for them until I'm out of here.

On the crowd experience

It's like night and day when you have excitement in the crowd. It makes you want to play harder. We're going to continue to play hard. It didn't make us play bad today, but maybe a larger crowd will help with the energy.

Iowa State coach Bill Fennelly

On today's game

It's a very good team. A very good West Virginia team. As always, we knew they could really defend. The bottom line is, it's hard to beat anyone when you let two kids play. We were kind of two against five tonight. I thought Jadda (Buckley) and Seanna (Johnson) did everything they could. They scored 36 out of 47 points. Bria Holmes is a great player, and I'm glad she's a senior. (Lanay) Montgomery is great. (Arielle) Roberson just killed us on the boards. For us offensively, it was the inability to get anyone besides those two (Jadda Buckley and Seanna Johnson). That's way too much pressure for anyone to handle, especially against a great defensive team like West Virginia.

On shooting abilities

It's kind of been our problem all year. Our inability to make shots at critical times. I think you can take Jadda (Buckley) and Seanna (Johnson) out and we're four-for-30. We got to the free throw line, which was good, but it's been kind of the same thing for us. Our kids are competing as hard as they can compete, but our inability to defensive rebound at critical times and our inability to make shots has not allowed us to win games like this.

On Lanay Montgomery's improvement

She's done a great job. Credit to her and credit to the coaching staff here. She was almost an offensive liability at times, and now, they're running plays for her. That says a lot about her. The confidence her teammates have in her and her coaches have in her. I mean 15 and 15. That's a hell of a night, and then you add Bria Holmes, who's as good as any player in our league. I think you have to give their guards credit. They don't settle for shots. They made the extra pass. They didn't bite on taking some jumpers we hope that they would take. They kept pounding it inside. Meredith Burkhall is a freshman post player, and I think she's getting an advanced course on Big 12 post defense this year.

On the Big 12 Conference

It's really hard. I've been in this for a long time, but we are all about the next 40 minutes. That's boring and cliché to some people, but if you don't think that way in this league, then you're in trouble. The styles are so different. West Virginia and Iowa State probably play as opposite a style of basketball as you can play. Styles make fights. That's what they say, so you have to show up. You have to play. When you have an opportunity, you have to make the plays. They make the plays down the stretch without question. I don't think we made a basket the last four minutes of the game. We had some good looks, but that's why they're a top-25 team and on the verge of another NCAA tournament bid. They're making winning plays at winning times and that's a credit to them.